



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/617,696	07/14/2003	Shinya Imanishi	500.42939X00	3736
20457	7590	11/30/2006	EXAMINER	
ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP 1300 NORTH SEVENTEENTH STREET SUITE 1800 ARLINGTON, VA 22209-3873				SELBY, GEVEL V
ART UNIT		PAPER NUMBER		
		2622		

DATE MAILED: 11/30/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/617,696	IMANISHI ET AL.
	Examiner Gevell Selby	Art Unit 2622

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on _____.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 14 July 2003 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____. |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. **Claims 1-5, 8, and 10-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Strandwitz et al., US 6,522,352.**

In regard to claim 1, Strandwitz et al., US 6,522,352, discloses a camera equipment comprising:

camera means (see figure 2, element 130) for outputting a picked-up image as an image data (see column 3, lines 17-19);
first coding means (see figure 2, element 200) for compression-coding the image data output from said camera means (see column 3, lines 17-19);
second coding means (see figure 2, element 210) for compression-coding the image data output from said camera means (see column 3, lines 17-19);

communication means (see figure 2, elements 100 and 190) for receiving and transmitting the compressed image data compression-coded in said first coding means through a transmission path (see column 3, lines 19-23); and recording means (see figure 4, element 402) for storing the compressed image data compression-coded by said first coding means and said second coding means (see column 13, lines 45-62);

wherein said first coding means compression-codes said image data by a compression coding scheme designated externally through said communication means (see column 11, lines 45-55), said compression coding scheme being different from a compression coding scheme employed by said second coding means (see column 2, lines 48-56: still image compression scheme for second encode and moving image compression scheme for first encoder).

In regard to claim 2, Strandwitz et al., US 6,522,352, discloses the camera equipment according to claim 1, wherein said first coding means selects one of a plurality of different compression coding schemes and executes a compression coding process designated externally (see column 4, lines 31-43: real time video and verified video compression schemes).

In regard to claim 3, Strandwitz et al., US 6,522,352, discloses the camera equipment according to claim 1, wherein said second coding means compression-codes the image data by the compression coding process designated externally through said communication means (see column 11, lines 45-55: monitoring stations 715 and 721 designate and transmit compression scheme to the camera).

In regard to claim 4, Strandwitz et al., US 6,522,352, discloses the camera equipment according to claim 1, wherein said first coding means executes the compression-coding process according to a compression-coding scheme designated externally through said communication means in such a manner as to secure a transmissible data amount satisfying the transmission capacity of the transmission path (see column 5, lines 8-12 and column 11, lines 45-55: when verified video is selected data is transferred with reliable transmission).

In regard to claim 5, Strandwitz et al., US 6,522,352, discloses the camera equipment according to claim 2, wherein said second coding means executes the compression-coding process according to a compression-coding scheme designated externally through said communication means in such a manner as to generate a more finely detailed compressed image data than the compressed image data compression-coded by said first coding means (see column 7, lines 26-67 and column 11, lines 45-55: the still images encoded by the second encoder have more finely detailed compressed image data than the first video encoder because the first encoder user a higher compression rate because of lower bandwidth).

In regard to claim 8, Strandwitz et al., US 6,522,352, discloses camera equipment comprising:

a camera (see figure 2, element 130) which for outputs a picked-up image as an image data (see column 3, lines 17-19);
a first coder (see figure 2, element 200) which compression-codes the image data output from said camera (see column 3, lines 17-19);

a second coder (see figure 2, element 210) which compression-codes the image data output from said camera (see column 3, lines 17-19);

a first communication unit (see figure 2, elements 100, 190, 230 and 240) which receives and transmits the compressed image data compression-coded in said first coder through a transmission path (see column 3, lines 19-23 and column 4, lines 31-43);

a second communication unit (see figure 2, elements 100, 190, and 250) receives and transmits the compressed image data compression-coded in said second coder through a transmission path different from the transmission path used by said first communication unit (see column 3, lines 19-23 and column 4, lines 44-47); and

a recorder (see figure 4, element 402) which stores the compressed image data compression-coded by said first coder and said second coder (see column 13, lines 45-49).

In regard to claim 10, Strandwitz et al., US 6,522,352, discloses the camera equipment according to claim 8, wherein said first coder and said second coder compression-code the image data by selectively setting a compression coding scheme designated externally through said first communication unit and said second communication unit, respectively, after connection is established for communication (see column 45, lines 45-55).

In regard to claim 11, Strandwitz et al., US 6,522,352, discloses the camera equipment according to claim 1, wherein said first coder can select and set one of the

compression coding schemes including MPEG1, MPEG2, MPEG4, JPEG and JPEG2000 (see column 3,lines 9-16).

In regard to claim 12, Strandwitz et al., US 6,522,352, discloses the camera equipment according to claim 3, wherein each of said first coder and said second coder can independently select and set one of the compression coding schemes including MPEG1, MPEG2, MPEG4, JPEG and JPEG2000 (see column 3,lines 9-16).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. **Claims 6, 7, and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Strandwitz et al., US 6,522,352, in view of Honda et al., US 6,493,466.**

In regard to claim 6, Strandwitz et al., US 6,522,352, discloses the camera equipment according to claim 1. The Strandwitz reference does not disclose further comprising means for detecting an abnormality occurring at an image pick-up position, said abnormality being notified to an external unit through said communication means upon detection thereof.

Honda et al., US 6,493,466, discloses an image data compression apparatus with a means for detecting an abnormality occurring at an image pick-up position (see figure 19, element 1916), said abnormality being notified to an external unit (the center machine)

through said communication means (modem 1907) upon detection thereof (see column 19, line 41 to column 20, line 13).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to have been motivated to modify Strandwitz et al., US 6,522,352, in view of Honda et al., US 6,493,466, to have a means for detecting an abnormality occurring at an image pick-up position, said abnormality being notified to an external unit through said communication means upon detection thereof, in order to automatically alert the user of an abnormality by displaying the transmitted image while storing it, thus making the system easier to operate and more reliable.

In regard to claim 7, Strandwitz et al., US 6,522,352, in view of Honda et al., US 6,493,466, discloses the camera equipment according to claim 6. The Honda reference discloses wherein information indicating the occurrence of an abnormality is added to the compressed image data recorded in said recording means during the occurrence of said abnormality (see column 19, lines 41-46).

In regard to claim 9, Strandwitz et al., US 6,522,352, discloses the camera equipment according to claim 8, wherein said first communication unit is a wireless communication unit which receives and transmits the image data through a wireless transmission path (see column 3, lines 17-23). The Strandwitz reference does not disclose wherein the second communication unit is a wire communication unit for receiving and transmitting the image data through a wire transmission path.

Honda et al., US 6493,466, discloses an image data compression apparatus with a line communication interface 702 that transfers data on a communication line 703 after image compression (see column 11, line 63 to column 12, line 17).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of invention to have been motivated to modify Strandwitz et al., US 6,522,352, in view of Honda et al., US 6,493,466, wherein the second communication unit is a wire communication unit for receiving and transmitting the image data through a wire transmission path, in order to quickly transfer the image data where the image quality of a motion-fast image is not degraded, and the entire image can be quickly transmitted, even on a communication line with a low communication speed such as an analog telephone line.

Conclusion

6. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. US 2004/0105653 discloses a moving picture recording and sending device with two different encoders.

US 2003/0052986 discloses an image processing apparatus with a still image codec unit and a moving picture codec unit.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Gevell Selby whose telephone number is 571-272-7369. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00 A.M. - 5:30 PM (every other Friday off).

Art Unit: 2622

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Vivek Srivastava can be reached on 571-272-7304. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

gvs



VIVEK SRIVASTAVA
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600